I hereby certify that the paper is being deposited in the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed: BOX MISSELLAND, Assistant Commissioner of Patent and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

MICHAEL HOUGHTON et al.

Serial No.: 09/728,423

Group Art: Unassigned

Filed:

December 1, 2000

Examiner: Unassigned

For:

ELICITING HCV-SPECIFIC ANTIBODIES

PETITION FOR FOUR-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME

Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicant herewith requests a four-month extension of time to respond to the Notice to File Missing Parts of Nonprovisional Application mailed January 11, 2001 in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.136.

Enclosed please find a check to cover the four-month extension of time. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR §§1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by this paper, or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-1664. This, however, is not authorization to pay the issue fee.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated:

By:

Alisa A. Harbin

Reg. No. 33,895

CHIRON CORPORATION Intellectual Property - R440 P.O. Box 8097

Emeryville, CA 94608

(510) 923-2708

(510) 655-3542 (Fax)